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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 09812.0568-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
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Tetsuhiro MAEDA et al.) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)
Application No.: 10/590,504) Examiner: Unassigned
)
Filed: August 24, 2006)
)
For: DATA RECORDING METHOD,)
DATA RECORDING APPARATUS)
AND IMAGE PICKUP)
APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for this application.

Copies of the listed foreign documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate they were considered by making an appropriate notation on the attached form.

An English Abstract of Japanese Patent Publication No. 04-170765 is enclosed.
Computer generated English translations of Japanese Patent Publication Nos. 2001-043631, 2004-022043, and 2004-213769 are also enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

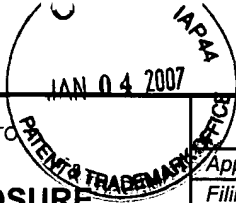
Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 4, 2007

By: 

Michael R. Kelly
Reg. No. 33,921



IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

Complete if Known

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	10/590,504
Filing Date	August 24, 2006
First Named Inventor	MAEDA ET AL.
Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	09812.0568-00000

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation
		Country Code Number Kind Code (if known)				
		JP 04-170765	6/18/1992	OTSUKA		Abstract
		JP 2001-043631	2/16/2001	NISHIMURA		Yes
		JP 2004-022043	1/22/2004	SONY CORPORATION		Yes
		JP 2004-213769	7/29/2004	SONY CORPORATION		Yes

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.